

**Administration on Aging
and
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

Aging and Disability Resource Center Grant Program

Organization Name: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Community & Cultural Affairs

Project Title: Aging and Disability Resource Center

Total Project Period: 7/1/2004 – 6/30/2007

Total Award Amount: \$200,000

Project Contact: Juan Babauta, (670) 664-2571

Project's Overall Design:

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) will establish an Aging and Disability Resource Center where older people and people with disabilities in the island community can have access to clear and uniform information and counseling on all available long-term care services. The Center will also be a single point of entry to public short and long-term support programs and activities. It will reach out to underserved older people and people with disabilities in villages where people have limited access to information. CNMI will integrate access to long-term care programs and activities through co-location of personnel and an integrated database. Center staff will assist consumer in utilizing the Benefits Check-Up online tool to determine eligibility for public benefits.

Target Population:

- Year One – All populations
- Year Two & Three – All populations

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Simplify access to information and eligibility screening process in order for clients to avail themselves of a variety of services in one location.
- Educate consumers, professionals, and community on services and resources of programs and agencies as well as the Resource Center itself.
- Gain community-wide support for use of the Resource Center technology to provide clear, accurate and current information on available support.
- Provide services that centralize screening of program applications to ensure clients are matched with appropriate programs that best meet their needs.
- Reduce the waiting time of consumers who need screening, program enrollment, and referral.

Involvement of Stakeholders and Community Based Organizations:

- Advisory Committee: Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Main Office, Aging Office, Developmental Disabilities Council (Office of the Governor), Medicaid Office, Community Guidance Center/Commonwealth Health Center, Vocational Rehabilitation Office, and the Ayuda Network.